



SHAPING THE FUTURE ... TOGETHER

OVERVIEW

GUAM AND CNMI MILITARY RELOCATION DRAFT EIS / OEIS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Focus

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) / Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) was prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations); and the Navy Procedures for Implementing NEPA. The DEIS was prepared to facilitate decisions based on an understanding of the environmental consequences of the proposed Guam and CNMI military relocation and take measures to protect, restore, and enhance the environment. The decisions to be made are whether and how to implement the proposed military and related actions.

Impacts are presented by resource areas that have been deemed significant in the context of NEPA. Potential mitigation measures that would reduce the adverse impacts of implementing the Guam and CNMI military relocation program are also listed with each identified significant impact. With implementation of these potential mitigation measures, the environmental consequences would be reduced. Mitigation measures for the selected alternative will be identified in the Record of Decision. These measures will be funded, and efforts to ensure their successful completion or implementation will be treated as compliance requirements and tracked as part of annual data calls.

Mitigation refers to measures that would be taken to avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce / eliminate, or provide compensation for a negative impact resulting from a military action. In 40 Code of Federal Regulations 1500, the Council on Environmental Quality defines mitigation as:

- **Avoidance:** Avoid the impact by changing the action. Do not take certain actions that would cause the environmental effect.
- **Minimization:** Minimize impacts by changing the intensity, timing, magnitude, or duration of the action and its implementation.
- **Rectifying:** Rehabilitate, repair, or restore damage that may be caused by implementing the proposed actions.
- **Reducing / Eliminating:** Reduce or eliminate the impact over time.
- **Replacement:** Compensate for an impact by replacing the damage and improving the environment elsewhere, or by providing other substitute resources such as funds to pay for the environmental impact.

Key Actions

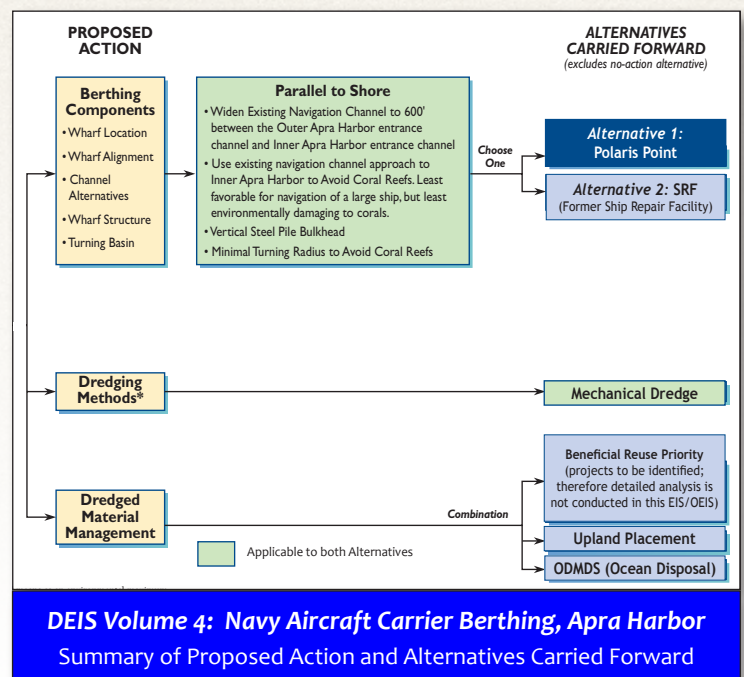
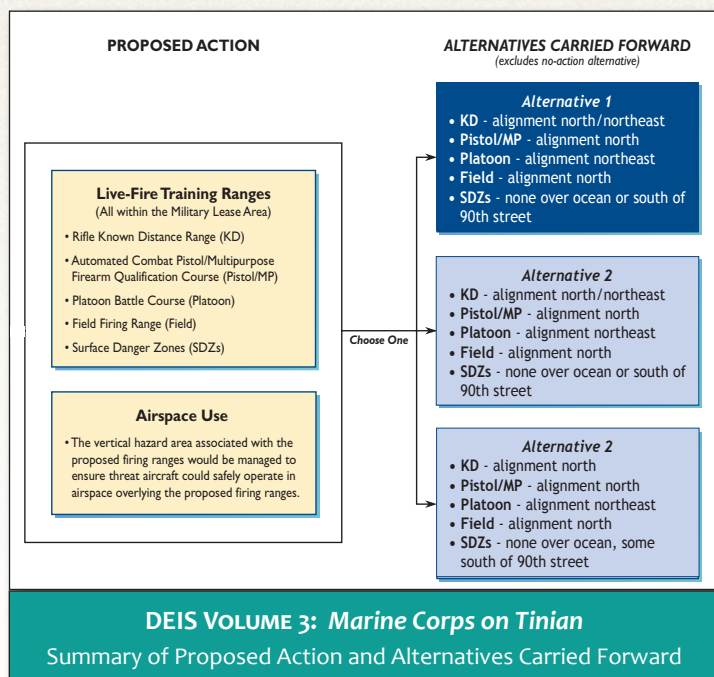
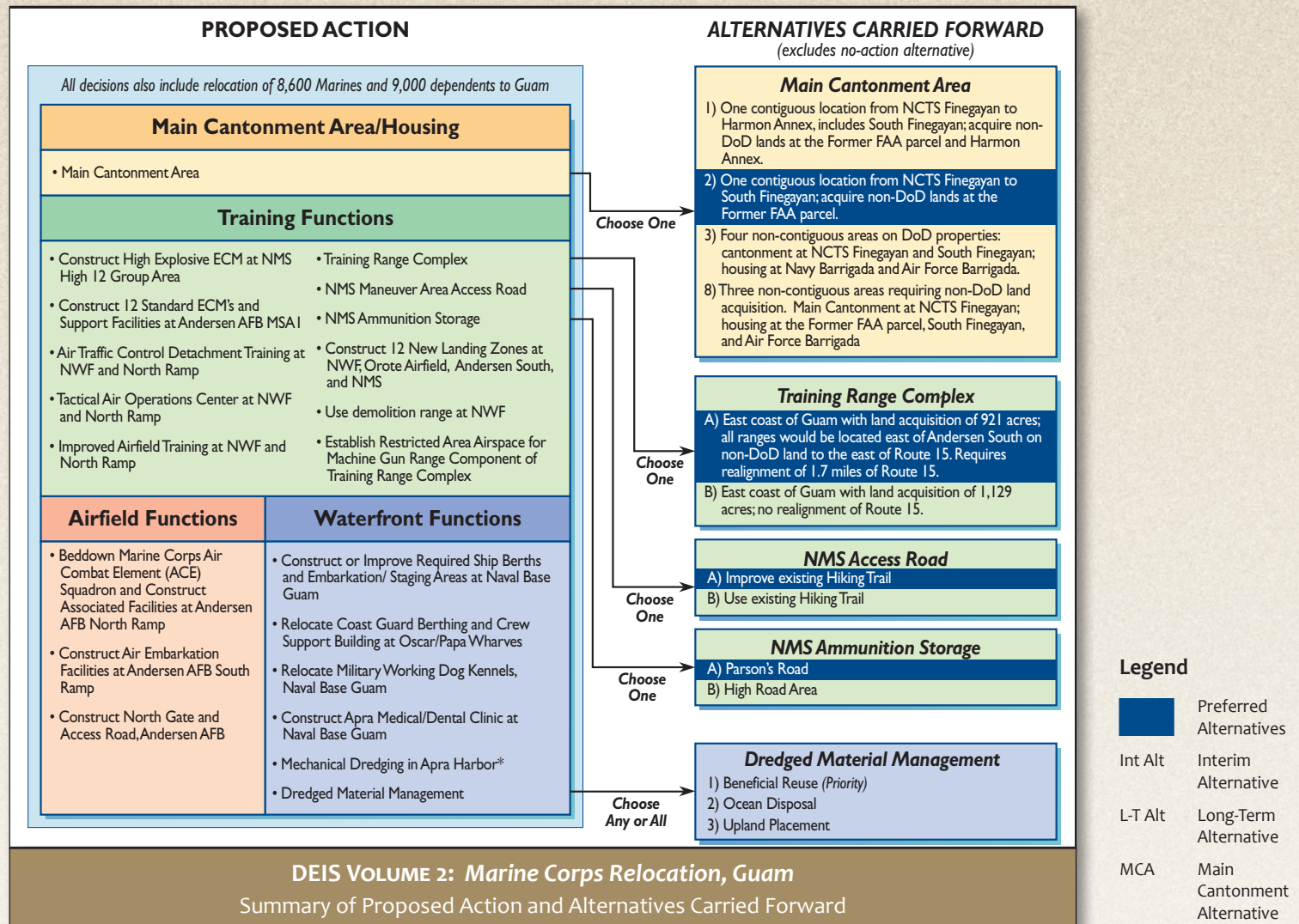
The proposed military actions are complex, multi-service projects involving components of the U.S. Marine Corps, Navy, and Army. In the DEIS / OEIS, each action is developed and analyzed. The analysis includes the details of the alternatives considered and a No Action Alternative. Volume 2 analyzes the effects of the proposed facilities and infrastructure to accommodate the Marine Corps relocation to Guam, including the associated training and operations on Guam. Volume 3 analyzes the effects of the proposed facilities and infrastructure for the Marine Corps, including operations and training on Tinian in the CNMI. Volume 4 analyzes the effects of the Navy's proposed deep-draft port with shoreside improvements creating a new capability in Apra Harbor, Guam, to support a transient nuclear-powered aircraft carrier. Volume 5 analyzes the proposed site of the Army's Air and Missile Defense Task Force (AMDTF). Volume 6 evaluates related actions such as utilities and roadway projects on Guam.

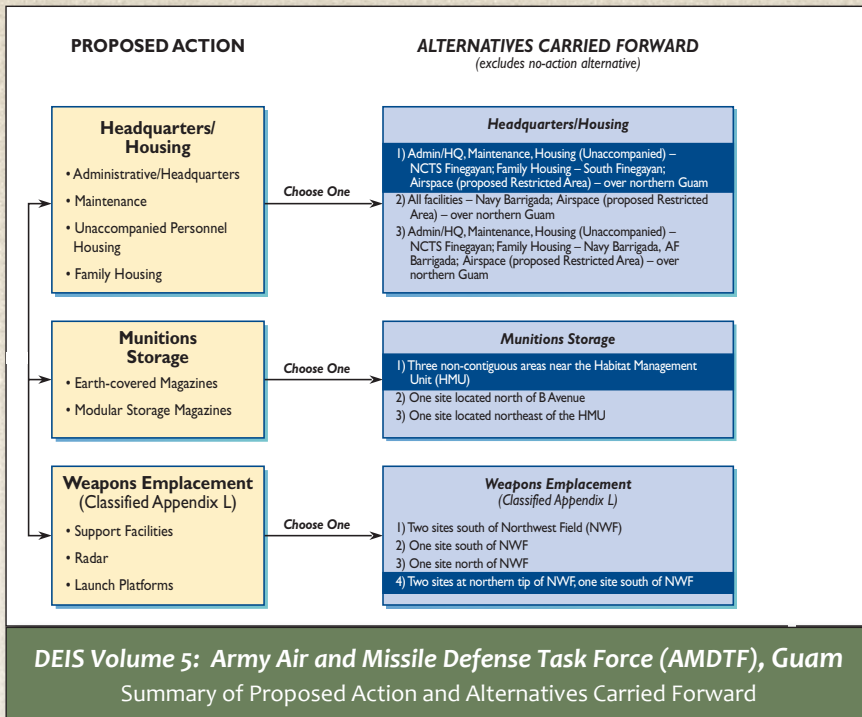
Alternatives were assessed and Preferred Alternatives were identified for each action. The term Preferred Alternatives refers to all the components of the Preferred Alternatives described for the Marine Corps relocation, Navy transient aircraft carrier wharf and Army AMDTF, as a whole. The greatest impacts to resources would occur when all of the proposed actions occur concurrently. To assess a maximum potential adverse effect, it is assumed that proposed construction actions would occur during a compressed period. It is assumed that all operational activities would commence only upon completion of construction. In other words, there would be no overlap between construction and operation phases of the Preferred Alternatives.

Impacts to resource areas were assessed into several categories:

- SI = Significant impact
- SI-M = Significant impact mitigable to less than significant
- LSI = Less than significant impact
- NI = No impact

The next pages summarize the alternatives and Preferred Alternative for each major action as reflected and developed in its respective volume. Each chart provides key information and alternatives that were evaluated in developing the Preferred Alternative. The last page provides a chart reflecting the cumulative assessment of impacts to Guam's key resources both in the construction phase as well as the operation phase. Further detailed analysis is recorded in each volume respectively. The Navy identified criteria to generate potential alternatives for consideration. After a thorough review, the Navy eliminated several alternatives from further consideration. These alternatives were not considered reasonable due to factors such as significant constraints on land use, time frame for land acquisition, geographic constraints, or presence of protected species or cultural resources. A description of the alternatives considered but dismissed from further analysis is presented in Chapter 2 of Volumes 2-6 of the Draft EIS / OEIS.





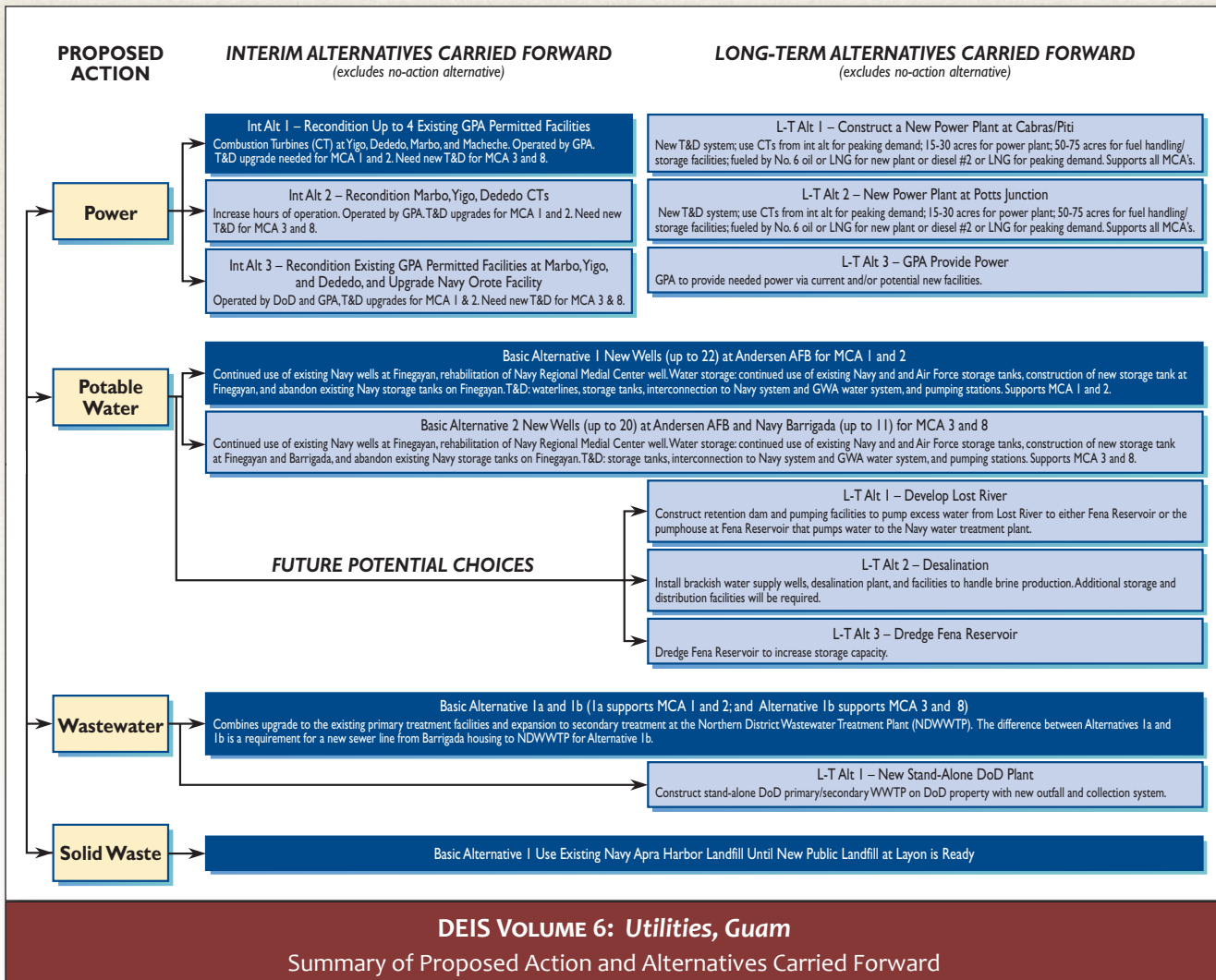
Assessment

The mitigation measures have a significant implication for the government of Guam and its regulatory agencies. The DEIS / OEIS makes a dramatic statement that, “The DoD has limited authority to implement mitigation measures on non-DoD land.” Recognizing Guam’s unique circumstances and world economic conditions may make it difficult for Guam to address mitigation of non-DoD elements using normal revenue sources.

There are very few significant adverse impacts due to proposed mitigation efforts. The mitigation measures impose significant burdens on the government of Guam and its regulatory agencies to upgrade the potable water system, the wastewater treatment plant, and the power plants. The lack of ability to quantify and qualify the impacts as well as the appropriate migration actions and resource needs in the socioeconomic arenas present a significant unknown for Guam and its citizens.

The short term impacts to GovGuam will be significant. In the short term there will be a significant stress on public services as GovGuam tries to accommodate the rising the population. Additionally, as the population rises, the cost of living will increase, making it more difficult for local members of the communities to keep pace.

There is a definite bias that the Preferred Alternative will enhance Guam’s economy and quality of life, however this benefit is not yet adequately quantified.



Potentially Impacted Resource	Action	Impact	Significant Impacts and Potential Mitigation of Preferred Alternatives
Water Resources	Construction	SI-M Guam Tinian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temporary water quality impacts on near shore waters and coral in Apra Harbor during dredging. Implementation of a suite of mitigation measures required by dredging permits, such as physical barriers to limit sediment dispersal, would reduce impacts to less than significant. Potential fill of wetlands and indirect wetland impacts. Mitigation measures would include creation of replacement wetlands or preservation or improvement of existing wetlands.
Noise	Operation	SI Guam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roadway noise would be a significant impact in the north and central areas of Guam. Mitigation has not been determined. Noise walls are a potential mitigation, but they have adverse impacts on views.
Land, Roadways, and Submerged Land Use	Construction	SI-M Guam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roadway construction on Guam would have a significant adverse impact on roadway use during construction. Mitigation would include a Traffic Management Plan implemented by the Federal Highway Administration that would identify measures to reduce impacts during the construction period.
	Operation	SI-M Guam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal acquisition of land for main cantonment, firing ranges, and roadway improvements on Guam. Mitigation would include long-term leases of the property instead of purchase.
		SI Tinian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural/grazing permits within the Tinian Lease Back Area would be terminated, causing significant impact on consistency with the Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981. The permits are subject to termination at military discretion.
Terrestrial Biological Resources	Construction	SI Guam Tinian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special Status Species: loss of habitat for special-status species on Guam and Tinian, including federal threatened and endangered species, from clearing of vegetation. Invasive species introduction, mitigated through existing interdiction plans and policies, and new measures identified in the Micronesian Biosecurity Plan (being developed).
	Operation	SI-M Guam Tinian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational noise would result in the disturbance of special status species. A suite of existing procedures, BMPs and mitigation measures including noise barriers would be implemented to address construction and operational impacts on terrestrial biology.
Marine Biological Resources	Construction	SI-M Guam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dredging in Outer Apra Harbor would result in significant direct impacts to the coral reef ecosystem. Potential compensatory mitigation being considered includes watershed management projects and artificial reef construction.
Cultural Resources	Construction	SI-M Guam Tinian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential significant adverse direct impacts to approximately 34 NRHP-eligible or listed archaeological resources on Guam and 10 on Tinian. Mitigation would be conducted in accordance with Programmatic Agreement with State Historic Preservation Office to require avoidance, survey, monitoring during construction, data recovery, building documentation, public education, and training of military personnel. Potential significant adverse impacts to four traditional cultural properties. Mitigated to less than significant through public education and implementation of a preservation plan.
Utilities	Construction and Operation	SI-M Guam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact to existing overburdened utilities infrastructure on Guam Potable Water: The projected water demand for the Guam civilian population throughout 2010-2019, not including the effects of the military buildup, exceeds the current GWA water system capacity. Projected potable water demand would not exceed sustainable yield of the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer. Higher than currently permitted wastewater flow to NDWWTP. GWA would be required to upgrade the NDWWTP to secondary treatment. A suite of mitigation measures are under consideration to mitigate impacts to utilities on Guam, including adaptive management techniques to adjust construction tempo.
Socioeconomics and General Services	Construction and Operation	SI-M Guam Tinian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beneficial impacts to economics and tourism. Adverse impacts to population, housing, public services, crime, social order, and community. Impacts of sudden activity (both positive and negative) that peak during the 2013-2015 timeframe. Effects on Neighborhoods and Businesses. Property Acquisition and Relocation. A suite of mitigation measures under DoD and non-DoD control are under consideration to mitigate impacts to socioeconomics and services on Guam, including adaptive management techniques to adjust construction tempo.
Environmental Justice and the Protection of Children	Construction	SI-M Guam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roadway traffic and noise would impact low income, children and racial minorities. Noise mitigation for noise is proposed, but has visual impacts to consider.
	Operation	SI-M Guam SI Tinian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access restrictions to cultural sites. Limited health care services for under-insured. Access restrictions on chili-pepper gathering (Tinian only). No mitigation proposed for Tinian impacts.

Legend: SI = Significant Impact, SI-M = Significant impact mitigable to less than significant



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Your questions and comments are welcome.
Please visit the website at www.one.guam.gov.

Definitions for terms and acronyms used in this and other related reports can be found in the *Acronym Guide and Glossary* at www.one.guam.gov.